



Docket No.: 21.1931

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Fumiaki NAKATAKE, et al.

Serial No. 09/339,199

Group Art Unit: 2879

Confirmation No. 2308

Filed: November 8, 2002 (CPA)

Examiner: Kenneth J. Ramsey

For: MANUFACTURING METHOD OF PLASMA DISPLAY PANELS

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified Continuing Prosecution Application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please ADD new claims 31-37 in accordance with the following:

31. (AS NEW HEREIN) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel having a pair of substrates sealed together with a sealant and defining a discharge space therebetween, comprising:

forming the sealant along a periphery of at least one of the substrates, and stacking said substrates, one upon the other;

lowering a pressure in the discharge space between the pair of substrates, relatively to a pressure on exterior of the pair of substrates, by exhausting the discharge space, while heating and thereby melting the sealant; and

sealing the pair of substrates.

32. (AS NEW HEREIN) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel as recited in claim 31, further comprising:

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